

SAPC 4304
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8 March 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Detachment Personnel - Lockheed Aircraft Corporation

1. On 2 March I discussed with [redacted] Lockheed Project Personnel Officer, the question of [redacted] who would be rated as the senior engineer for Lockheed with Detachment A. It seems that the Lockheed medical people are not ready to fully qualify [redacted] for overseas duty based upon the present existence of a condition [redacted] reported as right inguinal hernia.

2. [redacted] proposed informally that in view of the location of Base A, the Project might be willing to permit [redacted] to go overseas with the Detachment despite the lack of medical qualification by the company. Personally, I took a dim view of this suggestion, but to make sure, I called [redacted] Deputy Chief, Medical Staff, and put the question to him. [redacted] said that he was against the idea and cited several instances recently where CIA personnel on TBY overseas had encountered difficulty with ruptures stemming from such hernias. Apparently, the condition is not related to the amount and kind of physical exertion the individual undertakes but may develop without regard to his occupation. [redacted] added that while an elective herniotomy is usually very simple, an emergency hernia flareup may require speedy medical attention in order to prevent strangulation of the lower bowel which leads to gangrene and in short order to demise.

3. I conveyed [redacted] opinion to [redacted] and told him that while I recognized the important job [redacted] did, that we were against sending him without corrective surgery, nor did we favor the idea of sending him with the promise that this surgery would be accomplished overseas. Of course, in the latter instance, the Project would be responsible for the surgery.

4. [redacted] and I agreed that he would recommend to Kelly that [redacted] be hospitalized on or about 21 March for corrective surgery with the thought that his operation would probably not take him out of the play for longer than three weeks. This would enable [redacted] to deploy on schedule and would also allow Lockheed's medical staff to approve his departure.

JAMES A. CUNNINGHAM, JR.
Director of Administration
RCS/DCI

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Orig - [redacted] 1 - Service 3 - Personnel 5 - Med. Officer 7 - chronO
2 - [redacted] 1 - Master 4 - [redacted] 8 - reading